## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:

Tsutomu Okada

Examiner:

Ronald J. Hupczey, Jr.

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Commissioner for Patents P. O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 23313-1450

## **INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Sir:

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, it is requested that the following references, which are also listed on the attached Form PTO-1449, be made of record in the above-identified case.

- 1. Japanese Patent Application KOKAI Publication No. 2002-28166 published January 29, 2001;
- 2. Japanese Patent Application KOKAI Publication No. 2000-135221 published May 16, 2000; and
- 3. Japanese Patent Application KOKAI Publication No. 2002-301088 published October 15, 2002.

## **CERTIFICATE OF ELECTRONIC FILING**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Patent & Trademark Office via Electronic Filing through the United States Patent and Trademark Office e-business website on the date set forth below.

Dated: November 4, 2008

Thomas Spinelli

The above-cited references were cited in an Official Action dated September 30, 2008 received from the Japanese Patent Office. Applicant is submitting copies of the above references, together with a translation of the Examiner's comments regarding all of the references from the Official Action. Please note that the reference cited in the Office Action, namely, Japanese Patent Application KOKAI Publication No. 4-329944 published November 1992 was previously submitted in applicants' Information Disclosure Statement dated April 14, 2004. The relevance of the above-cited references is described in the Official Action.

In compliance with the requirements of 37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(3), as a concise statement of relevance, as it is presently understood by the individual designated in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(c) most knowledgeable about the content of the information, the undersigned attorney of record submits a translation of portions of an official action by a foreign examiner in which the references were cited. The relevance to the pending U.S. patent application is that the references were cited in a foreign patent application on the same subject matter. However, no independent analysis of the references, the accuracy of the statement of the foreign examiner or the claims of the foreign application under the laws of that country or the United States relative to the subject matter claimed in the present application has been made; the present understanding of the contents thereof by the undersigned being based on the translation of the foreign examiner's comments submitted herewith.

Further, the undersigned hereby states that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

## Applicant also authorizes Deposit Account 191013 to be charged the requisite

\$180.00 official fee pursuant to § 1.17(p)

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas Spinelli

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TS: cm